

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /037 W

-----047493 180434Z /75

R 171658Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0570

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CZ, GW, UR, PEPR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. SOVIET WEEKEND PRESS COMMENTS FAVORABLY ON HUSAK VISIT TO BONN AND SUMMARIZES APPROVINGLY RUDE PRAVO PIECE ON IMPORTANCE OF THE APRIL 1969 CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY PLENUM. IZVESTIYA APRIL 15 AND PRAVDA APRIL 16 PUBLISH COMMENTARIES ON THE HUSAK VISIT TO BONN AFTER ALL BUT IGNORING THE VISIT UP TO THIS POINT. PRAVDA TREATS THE VISIT AS PART OF THE "FAVORABLE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION" TAKING PLACE IN EUROPE AND ALSO SEES IT AS HAVING ACHIEVED "POSITIVE RESULTS" IN THE SPHERE OF CZECHOSLOVAK-FRG RELATIONS. THE COMMENTARY CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS COORDINATING ITS EFFORTS WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE "SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH" AND IS CONDUCTING AN ACTIVE FOREIGN POLICY. THE THEME OF FOREIGN POLICY COORDINATION IS ALSO

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STRESSED BY IZVESTIA, WHICH ALSO (AS DID PRAVDA) CITES THE VISIT AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW RELATIONS CAN DEVELOP BETWEEN COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERING SOCIAL SYSTEMS.

2. PRAVDA OF APRIL 17 PUBLISHES A TASS SUMMARY OF RUDE PRAVO EDITORIAL ARTICLE DEALING WITH THE APRIL 1969 PLENUM OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THE SUMMARY EMPHA-

SIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE "INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE"  
RENDERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN AUGUST 1968 IN REBUFFING THE  
RIGHTWING, "ANTISOCIALIST, COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY FORCES."  
CZECHOSLOVAK EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN SOCIALISM AND ITS  
LOYALTY TO THE USSR ARE EMPHASIZED AND THE SUMMARY CONCLUDES  
CONCLUDES WITH RUDE PRAVO'S WARNING AGAINST "IDEOLOGICAL  
DISARMAMENT."

3. COMMENT: THESE ITEMS ARE OF INTEREST LARGELY AS THEY  
UNDERScore SOVIET APPROVAL OF CURRENT CZECHOSLOVAK POLICY,  
PARTICULARLY THE BONN VISIT,. THESE PIECES ARE ALSO A RE-  
MINDER TO THE OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS (AND TO ROMANIA IN  
PARTICULAR) OF HOW MOSCOW WOULD LIKE TO SEE FOREIGN AND  
DOMESTIC POLICY CONDUCTED WITHIN THE "SOCIALIST COMMON-  
WEALTH" AND OF THE PROPER WAY TO CONDUCT ONESELF ON VISITS  
TO THE WEST. TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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